

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1345

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to recognize Betty Dickson Lomax Byrd on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize, particularly on the occasion of their retirement, those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Betty Dickson Lomax Byrd is one such estimable educator who, having distinguished herself as an exemplary teacher, will enter into a well-deserved retirement on June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a renowned educator for the Wilson County school system, Mrs. Byrd served with acumen and alacrity for twenty-one years, instructing and positively influencing students from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Betty Byrd received two degrees in education; a bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University and a master's degree from Trevecca Nazarene University, which she completed in June of 1990. Upon her completion of her master's degree, she began her teaching career; and

WHEREAS, she is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who has worked assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her work as an educator, Ms. Byrd worked with State Farm Insurance Agent Mel Nelson for seven years; and

WHEREAS, an organized professional who always set high expectations for her students, Betty Byrd truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and her students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, as a faithful member of the New Heart Christian Church in Lebanon, Betty Byrd remains an active and important part of her community; and

WHEREAS, her many professional accomplishments aside, she is grateful for the love and support she shares with her husband, James Larry Byrd, to whom she has remained happily married for forty-eight years; they are the proud parents of two daughters, Kelly (Aaron) Fortner and Amanda (Jason) Minor, and one son, Joshua (Gina) Byrd; grandparents of Tom Fortner, Byrdie Fortner, Hadley Minor, Owen Minor, Hudson Minor, Landon Byrd, and Adyson Byrd; and great-grandparents of Ezekiel Howard; and

WHEREAS, Betty Byrd truly epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized for her manifold achievements on the occasion of her retirement; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Betty Dickson Lomax Byrd, commending her exceptional service to the children of Wilson County, saluting her professional expertise and personal excellence, and extending to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.